

Charts from RIC meeting 2-1-2002

7-12 Configuration buildings

Barriers:

- Shared staff
- Physical plant

Staff Development – Essential Elements

Flexible schedule – vertical/horizontal

Assessments:

- Retention
- Sort/select
- Lower expectations – L1/L2
- Middle School More like High School
- Gather and use data
- Alternative Assessments – no finals
- Open communication (5-8)
- Change use of time
- AIS – help
- Special Education – improve
- Loss of teacher time
- Emphasis on Grade 8 only
- Not focused on social/emotional

Help?

- Data Analysis Practical use – What does it mean?
- Middle School teachers – best practices – internal capacity
- Support sustain administration

Suggestions:

- Too many requirements Grades 6-8
- Staff Development – instructional strategies
- Social Emotional/Behavioral needs – equal focus

SED:

- Premature evaluation
- Too much emphasis on academic
- Assess and evaluate all 7 Essential Elements

Educational leadership is essential

Barriers:

- Monies – successful Middle School – Academic/Social/Emotional
- Transition
- Communication
- Parent “buy-in” to Middle School concept

Why is High School more successful?

- Coming in more prepared

Assesment

- Current alignment
- Staff development
- Progressive evaluation
- Instruction
- Goal setting
- Rigor
- Reflection on practice
- Interdisciplinary opportunity
- Teacher/student/parent/administration stress
- Testing is not the only measure of success
- No monies – mandates
- AIS – limit opportunity for alternative interest

Middle School evaluation (SURR model)

- Criteria is explicit
- More collaboration/discussion
- Time to do the work – balance monies, staff development, loss of instruction time
- Essential Elements (K-12)
- Teacher most important □ student achievement
- Student work
- Multiple layers of work – (change instruction)
- Assessment:
 - Need to integrate all areas
 - Collaboration
 - Rigor
 - Emphasis – reading
 - Teach to test
- Lack of teacher training – standards – preparation
- Disparity – Middle School philosophy
- Middle School staff development – needs of student
- Middle School philosophy – agreement
- SED – help “buy-in” of all 7 Essential Elements – not just academic requirements
- Monies and time barriers to implement philosophy
 - Extend time
 - Team
 - Blocks
 - Professional Development – instructional strategies

Assessments: (create anxiety – not able to focus on all aspects)

- performance – extended task
- Alignment of curriculum
- Conversations – focused attention
- Focus/format – curriculum development

Process: Implement 7 Essential Elements – give it time

Quality teachers – key to Essential Elements (K-12)

Parental/Community support – inform changes

Cultural barriers □ change

Assessments not used effectively for planning

SED—Scoring parallel to Regents?

7-12 – Where to start?

6/7-12 Buildings – share staff, etc.

Teachers/Instruction

- Assessments not measures of Elements
- How to measure?
- Time focused on assessments – not able to do other things
- How to use data? Teachers? What does it mean? How can we use it?
- Awareness of 7 Essential Elements? New staff?